

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) End closure member (1) with at least one feed-through (5), characterized in ~~that~~ that the end closure member (1) has at least one through-going feed-through opening (2) having a feed-through entry opening (8) and a feed-through exit opening (9) and connection means (10) for forming a gas-tight connection between end closure member (1) and feed-through (5), whereby the through-going feed-through opening (2) cross-section varies along the end closure member (1) longitudinal axis; feed-through entry opening (8) cross-section is larger than the feed-through exit opening (9), and connection means (10) is located at least close to the area of the feed-through exit opening (9).

2. (currently amended) End closure member (1) according to claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ that the ratio between the area of the smallest through-going feed-through opening cross-section is ≤ 1 and > 0 , ~~preferably the ratio is ≤ 0.5 and > 0 , more preferably the ratio is ≤ 0.2 and > 0 and/or the difference between the area of the largest through-going feed-through opening cross-section ~~ent~~ and the area of the smallest through-going feed-through opening cross-section is $> 0 \text{ mm}^2$, preferably the difference between the areas is $\geq 1.5 \text{ mm}^2$, more preferably the difference is $\geq 5.0 \text{ mm}^2$, and most preferably the difference is $\geq 13.4 \text{ mm}^2$.~~

3. (currently amended) End closure member (1) according to ~~claims 1 to 2~~ claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ that the end closure

member (1) is a metal, a metal alloy, a coated metal, a metal assembly, and/or a cermet material, preferably a cermet, and most preferably the cermet material has a gradient.

4. (currently amended) End closure member (1) according to ~~claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ that the end closure member (1) is substantially tubular shaped, preferably the shape has a profile from the group comprising a cork, a disk, a plug, and/or an end cap.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) End closure member (1) according to ~~claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ that the longitudinal feed-through opening (2) cross-section has the form of a cone, a parabola, a hyperbola, an ellipse, a hemisphere, a Y-profile, an X-profile, a T-profile, or a V-profile.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) Gas-tight high-pressure burner (11) comprising at least one end closure member (1) with a feed-through (5) according to ~~claims 1 to 7~~claim 1.

9. (original) Lamp, comprising at least one gas-tight high-pressure burner (11) according to claim 8, whereby the lamp is preferably arranged in an automotive headlamp unit.

10. (original) Method of manufacturing a gas-tight high-pressure burner (11) comprising

a) at least one end closure member (1) according to ~~claims 1~~

~~to~~ claim 1, and

b) at least one discharge vessel (3) with at least one end opening (4), whereby the manufacturing method comprises the steps:

i) filling said discharge vessel (3) with an ionisable filling through at least one feed-through opening (2), and

ii) closing said feed-through opening (2) by arranging a feed-through (5) in said feed-through opening (2) followed by gas-tight connecting said feed-through (5) with the end closure member (1), whereby a gas-tight high-pressure burner (11) is obtained.

11. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that connection means (10) is located directly at the feed-through exit opening (9).

12. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 12, characterized in that the ratio is ≤ 0.5 and > 0 .

13. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 12, characterized in that the ratio is ≤ 0.2 and > 0 .

14. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that the difference between the areas is $\geq 1.5 \text{ mm}^2$.

15. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 14, characterized in that the difference between the areas is $\geq 5.0 \text{ mm}^2$.

16. (new) End closure member (1) according to claim 15, characterized in that the difference between the areas is \geq

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Amendment/Response

Reply to non-Final Office action of 20 December 2006

13.4 mm².